

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 were presented for examination, are pending and are rejected. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The 35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Claims 1-32 are rejected as being indefinite. Independent claims 1, 19 and 21 have been amended to clarify how the gain medium is pumped. The applicant has amended claims 1, 19 and 21 to recite that the pump light is transmitted into the index matched layer and is then transmitted from said index matched layer into said solid-state laser gain medium to optically pump said solid-state laser gain medium.

Therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 5, 10, 11, 16-21, 28 and 30-32 are rejected as being anticipated by Dixon. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The examiner indicated that the "means for optically pumping" recitation in the independent claims has not been given patentable weight because of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The applicant has amended the claims to overcome the 112 rejection, and therefore the limitation should now be given patentable weight. Dixon pumps on the optical axis of the laser resonator. See column 3, lines 41-42. The applicants' do not pump of the optical axis. The independent claims all recite "wherein pump light does not pump said gain medium along or parallel to said optical axis."

Further, the "index matching" of Dixon is used as a bonding agent to connect the diode to the gain medium. See column 6, lines 18-33. In the applicants' invention, there is no teaching or claim that the diode is bonded to the gain medium via an index matched layer.

Therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 2-4, 9, 22 and 23 are rejected as being unpatentable over Dixon in view of Kozlovsky et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

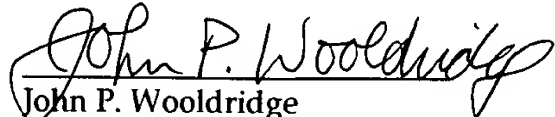
Claims 1 and 21 should be allowable over Dixon as discussed above. Claims 2-4 and 9 depend from claim 1 and should therefore be allowable. Claims 22 and 23 depend from claim 21 and should therefore be allowable. Therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

Conclusions

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance based on claims 1-32 in view of the amendments thereto and the foregoing comments.

If any impediments remain to prompt allowance of the case, please contact the undersigned at 808-270-1011.

Respectfully submitted,


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